

**CLAIMS**

1. A method for notification of a first new cell,  
comprising the steps of:

(A) generating a first report for a circuit design  
comprising a plurality of first cells including said first new cell  
5 by executing a rule check on said circuit design;

(B) comparing said first report with a database  
comprising a plurality of second cells already manufactured; and

(C) notifying a client of said first new cell in  
response to said first new cell not matching any of said second  
10 cells.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising  
the step of:

adding said first new cell to said database.

3. The method according to claim 1, further comprising  
the step of:

searching said database for said first new cell after  
step (C).

03-0772  
1496.00319

4. The method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of:

reclassifying said first new cell as one of said second cells upon completing manufacturing of said first new cell.

5. The method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of:

removing said first new cell from said database in response to said first new cell not being manufactured.

6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

transferring said first report to a server inbox prior to step (B).

7. The method according to claim 6, further comprising the step of:

performing a netlist-versus-layout check of said circuit design prior to transferring said first report.

03-0772  
1496.00319

8. The method according to claim 6, further comprising  
the step of:

performing an e-beam check of said circuit design prior  
to transferring said first report.

9. The method according to claim 1, further comprising  
the step of:

comparing a second new cell in a second report with said  
first new cell.

10. The method according to claim 9, further comprising  
the step of:

suppressing notification to said client of said second  
new cell in response to said second new cell duplicating said first  
5 new cell.

11. A system comprising:

a first client configured to generate a first report for  
a circuit design comprising a plurality of first cells including a  
first new cell by executing a rule check on said circuit design;  
5 and

03-0772  
1496.00319

a server configured to (i) compare said first report with  
a database comprising a plurality of second cells already  
manufactured and (ii) notify a second client of said first new cell  
in response to said first new cell not matching at least one of  
10 said second cells.

12. The system according to claim 11, wherein said  
server comprises:

an inbox configured to receive said first report from  
said first client.

13. The system according to claim 11, wherein said  
database comprises:

a new database configured to store said first cells and  
said first new cell received from said first client.

14. The system according to claim 13, wherein said  
database further comprises:

a used database configured to store said second cells.

03-0772  
1496.00319

15. The system according to claim 14, wherein said database further comprises:

a canceled database configured to store a plurality of identified cells among said first cells, said second cells and said first new cell in response to a message received from said second client.

16. The system according to claim 13, wherein said server is further configured to compare a second new cell received in a second report with said first new cell stored in said new database.

17. The system according to claim 16, wherein said server is further configured to suppress notification to said second client for said second new cell in response to said second new cell matching said first new cell.

18. The system according to claim 11, wherein said server comprises:

a web server configured to allow said second client to search said database.

03-0772  
1496.00319

19. The system according to claim 18, wherein said web server is further configured to allow said second client to reclassify said first new cell as one of said second cells.

20. A system comprising:

means for generating a first report for a circuit design comprising a plurality of first cells including a first new cell by executing a rule check on said circuit design;

5 means for comparing said first report with a database comprising a plurality of second cells already manufactured; and

means for notifying a client of said first new cell in response to said first new cell not matching any of said second cells.